

APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G

Ecological Resources

TA-18

APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D

APPENDIX G

ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Table G–1 contains a listing of the scientific names of animal and plant species found in the text. Species are listed in alphabetical order by common name within each taxonomic group.

Table G–1 Scientific Names of Plant and Animal Species

| <i>Common Name</i> | <i>Scientific Name</i> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mammals | |
| Big free-tailed bat | <i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i> |
| Black bear | <i>Ursus americanus</i> |
| Black-tailed jackrabbit | <i>Lepus californicus</i> |
| Bobcat | <i>Lynx rufus</i> |
| Cliff chipmunk | <i>Eutamias dorsalis</i> |
| Cottontail rabbit | <i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i> |
| Coyote | <i>Canis latrans</i> |
| Deer mouse | <i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i> |
| Elk | <i>Cervus elaphus</i> |
| Fringed myotis | <i>Myotis thysanodes</i> |
| Goat Peak pika | <i>Ochotona princeps nigrescens</i> |
| Gray wolf | <i>Canis lupus</i> |
| Great Basin pocket mouse | <i>Perognathus parvus</i> |
| Gunnison’s prairie dog | <i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i> |
| Kit fox | <i>Vulpes velox</i> |
| Long-eared myotis | <i>Myotis evotis</i> |
| Long-legged myotis | <i>Myotis volans</i> |
| Long-tailed pocket mouse | <i>Chaetodipus formosus</i> |
| Long-tailed vole | <i>Iklicrotus longicaudus</i> |
| Long-tailed weasel | <i>Mustela frenata</i> |
| Merriam’s kangaroo rat | <i>Dipodomys merriami</i> |
| Merriam’s shrew | <i>Sorex merriami</i> |
| Mountain lion | <i>Felis concolor</i> |
| Mule deer | <i>Odocoileus hemionus</i> |
| New Mexico jumping mouse | <i>Zapus hudsonius luteus</i> |
| Occult little brown bat | <i>Myotis lucifugus occultus</i> |
| Pale Townsend’s big-eared bat | <i>Plecotus townsendii pallescens</i> |
| Pronghorn | <i>Antilocapra americana</i> |
| Pygmy rabbit | <i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i> |
| Raccoon | <i>Procyon lotor</i> |
| Rock squirrel | <i>Sciurus variegates</i> |
| Small-footed myotis | <i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i> |
| Spotted bat | <i>Euderma maculatum</i> |
| Townsend’s big-eared bat | <i>Plecotus townsendii</i> |
| Townsend’s ground squirrel | <i>Spermophilus townsendii</i> |
| Vagrant shrew | <i>Sorex vagrans</i> |

| <i>Common Name</i> | <i>Scientific Name</i> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Western spotted skunk | <i>Spilogale gracilis</i> |
| Wild horse | <i>Equus caballus</i> |
| Wood rat | <i>Neotoma albigula</i> |
| Yuma myotis | <i>Myotis yumanensis</i> |
| Birds | |
| American kestrel | <i>Falco sparverius</i> |
| American peregrine falcon | <i>Falco peregrinus aratum</i> |
| Ash-throated flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i> |
| Audubon's warbler | <i>Dendroica coronata</i> |
| Baird's sparrow | <i>Ammodramus bairdii</i> |
| Bald eagle | <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> |
| Bell's vireo | <i>Vireo billii arizonae</i> |
| Black-headed grosbeak | <i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i> |
| Black swift | <i>Cyseloides niger boralis</i> |
| Black tern | <i>Chilidonias niger</i> |
| Black-throated sparrow | <i>Amphispiza bilineata</i> |
| Boreal owl | <i>Aegolius funereus</i> |
| Brewer's sparrow | <i>Spizella breweri</i> |
| Cassin's kingbird | <i>Tyrannus vociferans</i> |
| Cliff swallow | <i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i> |
| Cooper's hawk | <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> |
| European starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> |
| Ferruginous hawk | <i>Buteo regalis</i> |
| Flammulated owl | <i>Otus flammeolus</i> |
| Golden eagle | <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> |
| Gray flycatcher | <i>Empidonax wrightii</i> |
| Gray vireo | <i>Vireo vicinior</i> |
| Great-horned owl | <i>Bubo virginianus</i> |
| House finch | <i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i> |
| House sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> |
| Least bittern | <i>Ixobrychus exilis hesperis</i> |
| Loggerhead shrike | <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i> |
| Long-billed curlew | <i>Numenius americanus</i> |
| Lucy's warbler | <i>Vermivora lucine</i> |
| Mexican spotted owl | <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i> |
| Mountain plover | <i>Charadrius montanos</i> |
| Mourning dove | <i>Zenaidura macroura</i> |
| Northern flicker | <i>Colaptes auratus</i> |
| Northern goshawk | <i>Accipiter gentilis</i> |
| Phainopepla | <i>Phainopepla nitens</i> |
| Prairie falcon | <i>Falco mexicanus</i> |
| Red-tailed hawk | <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> |
| Red-winged blackbird | <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> |
| Rough-legged hawk | <i>Buteo lagopus</i> |
| Sage grouse | <i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i> |
| Sage sparrow | <i>Amphispiza belli</i> |
| Scrub jay | <i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i> |
| Solitary vireo | <i>Vireo solitarius</i> |

| <i>Common Name</i> | <i>Scientific Name</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Southwestern willow flycatcher | <i>Empidonax traillii eximus</i> |
| Swainson's hawk | <i>Buteo swainsonii</i> |
| Turkey vulture | <i>Cathartes aura</i> |
| Violet-green swallow | <i>Tachycineta thalassiana</i> |
| Western bluebird | <i>Sialia mexicana</i> |
| Western burrowing owl | <i>Athene cunicularia hypugea</i> |
| White-breasted nuthatch | <i>Sitta carolinensis</i> |
| White-faced ibis | <i>Plegadis chihi</i> |
| Whooping crane | <i>Grus americana</i> |
| Reptiles | |
| Bandelier Gila monster | <i>Heloderma suspectum cinctum</i> |
| Chuckwalla | <i>Sauromalus obesus</i> |
| Collared lizard | <i>Crotaphytus collaris</i> |
| Desert massasauga | <i>Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii</i> |
| Desert tortoise | <i>Gopherus agassizii</i> |
| Eastern fence lizard | <i>Sceloporus undulatus</i> |
| Gopher snake | <i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i> |
| Many-lined skink | <i>Eumeces multivirgatus</i> |
| Northern sagebrush lizard | <i>Sceloporus graciosus</i> |
| Prairie lizard | <i>Sceloporus undulates</i> |
| Side-blotched lizard | <i>Uta stansburiana</i> |
| Sidewinder snake | <i>Crotalus cerastes</i> |
| Short-horned lizard | <i>Phrynosoma douglassi</i> |
| Striped whipsnake | <i>Masticophis taeniatus</i> |
| Texas horned lizard | <i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i> |
| Texas longnose snake | <i>Rhinocheilus lecontei</i> |
| Western fence lizard | <i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i> |
| Western shovelnose snake | <i>Chionactis occipitalis</i> |
| Whiptail lizard | <i>Cnemidophorus velox</i> |
| Zebra-tailed lizard | <i>Callisaurus draconoides</i> |
| Amphibians | |
| Canyon tree frog | <i>Hyla arenicolor</i> |
| Jemez Mountain salamander | <i>Plethodon neomexicanus</i> |
| Red-spotted toad | <i>Bufo punctatus</i> |
| Western chorus frog | <i>Pseudacris triseriata</i> |
| Fish | |
| Bluegill | <i>Lepomis macrochirus</i> |
| Brook trout | <i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i> |
| Flathead chub | <i>Platygobio gracilis</i> |
| Golden shiner | <i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i> |
| Goldfish | <i>Carassius auratus</i> |
| Kokanee salmon | <i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i> |
| Mountain whitefish | <i>Prosopium williamsoni</i> |
| Rainbow trout | <i>Salmo gairdneri</i> |
| Shorthead sculpin | <i>Cottus confusus</i> |
| Speckled dace | <i>Rhinichthys osculus</i> |

| <i>Common Name</i> | <i>Scientific Name</i> |
|------------------------------|--|
| Plants | |
| Beatley milk vetch | <i>Astragalus beatleyae</i> |
| Beatley phacelia | <i>Phacelia beatleyae</i> |
| Big sagebrush | <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> |
| Black grama | <i>Bouteloua eriopoda</i> |
| Black woolypod | <i>Astragalus funereus</i> |
| Blackbrush | <i>Coleogyne ramosissima</i> |
| Bluebunch wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron spicatum</i> |
| Bottlebrush squirreltail | <i>Sitanion hystrix</i> |
| Broad-leafed cattail | <i>Typha latifolia</i> |
| Burro bush | <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i> |
| Cane Spring evening primrose | <i>Camissonia megalanatha</i> |
| Cattail | <i>Typha latifolia</i> |
| Checkered lily | <i>Fritillaria atropurpurea</i> |
| Clokey's egg-vetch | <i>Astragalus oopherus</i> var. <i>clokeyanus</i> |
| Cottonwood | <i>Populus</i> spp. |
| Creosote bush | <i>Larrea tridentata</i> |
| Crested wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron desertorum</i> |
| Death Valley beardtongue | <i>Penstemon fruticiformis</i> var. <i>amargosae</i> |
| Delicate rock daisy | <i>Perityle megalocleplala</i> var. <i>intricata</i> |
| Desert thorn | <i>Lycium</i> spp. |
| Eastwood milkweed | <i>Aschepias eastwoodiana</i> |
| Fir | <i>Abies</i> spp. |
| Galleta | <i>Hilaria jamesii</i> |
| Giant wildrye | <i>Elymus condensatus</i> |
| Grama grass cactus | <i>Pediocactus papyracanthus</i> |
| Gray horsebrush | <i>Tetradymia canescens</i> |
| Green rabbitbrush | <i>Chrysothamnus Greenei</i> |
| Helleborine orchid | <i>Epipactis gigantea</i> |
| Indian ricegrass | <i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i> |
| Joshua tree | <i>Yucca breviflora</i> |
| Juniper | <i>Juniperus</i> spp. |
| Kingston bedstraw | <i>Galium hilendiae</i> ssp. <i>Kingstonense</i> |
| Lemhi milkvetch | <i>Astragalus aquilonius</i> |
| Little bluestem | <i>Andropogon scoparius</i> |
| Low sagebrush | <i>Artemisia arbuscula</i> |
| Needle-and-thread grass | <i>Stipa comata</i> |
| Nevada jointfir | <i>Ephedra nevadensis</i> |
| One-seeded juniper | <i>Juniperus monosperma</i> |
| Pahute Mesa beardtongue | <i>Penstemon pahutensis</i> |
| Pahute Mesa green gentian | <i>Frasera pahutensis</i> |
| Painted milkvetch | <i>Astragalus ceramicus</i> var. <i>apus</i> |
| Parish's phacelia | <i>Phacelia parishii</i> |
| Pinyon pine | <i>Pinus edulis</i> |
| Ponderosa pine | <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> |
| Poverty-weed | <i>Monolepis mittaliana</i> |
| Prickly pear cactus | <i>Opuntia</i> spp. |
| Rabbitbrush | <i>Chrysothamnus</i> spp. |

| <i>Common Name</i> | <i>Scientific Name</i> |
|------------------------------|--|
| Ring muhly | <i>Muhlenbergia torreyi</i> |
| Rush | <i>Juncus spp.</i> |
| Sagebrush | <i>Artemisia spp.</i> |
| Saltbush | <i>Atriplex spp.</i> |
| Salt-cedar | <i>Tamarix pentandra</i> |
| Sand dropseed | <i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i> |
| Sanicle biscuitroot | <i>Cymopterus ripleyi</i> var. <i>saniculoides</i> |
| Sante Fe milkvetch | <i>Astragalus feenis</i> |
| Shadscale saltbush | <i>Atriplex confertifolia</i> |
| Speal-tooth dodder | <i>Cuscuta denticulata</i> |
| Spreading gilia | <i>Ipomopsis polycladon</i> |
| Spruce | <i>Picea spp.</i> |
| Strong prickly pear | <i>Opuntia valida</i> |
| Thickspike wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron dasytachyum</i> |
| Three-square | <i>Scirpus americanus</i> |
| Threetip sagebrush | <i>Artemisia tripartita</i> |
| Torrey rush | <i>Juncus torreyi</i> |
| Utah juniper | <i>Juniperus osteosperma</i> |
| Ute's ladies tresses | <i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> |
| Western wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron smithii</i> |
| White bearpoppy | <i>Arctomecon merriami</i> |
| White bursage | <i>Ambrosia dumosa</i> |
| White-margined beardtongue | <i>Penstemon albomarginatus</i> |
| Willow | <i>Salix spp.</i> |
| Winged-seed evening primrose | <i>Camissonia pterosperma</i> |
| Winterfat | <i>Eurotia lanata</i> |
| Wire rush | <i>Juncus balticus</i> |
| Wolfberry | <i>Lycium spp.</i> |
| Wood lily | <i>Lilium philadelphicum</i> var. <i>andinum</i> |
| Yellow lady's slipper orchid | <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> var. <i>pubescens</i> |

APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H

Federal Register Notices

TA-18

APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
**National Nuclear Security
Administration**
**Notice of Intent To Prepare an
Environmental Impact Statement for
The Proposed Relocation of the Los
Alamos National Laboratory Technical
Area 18 Missions**

AGENCY: Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: On April 11, 2000, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson announced the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposal to relocate missions at Technical Area 18 (TA-18), a group of facilities at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), by the end of 2004. Secretary Richardson also announced that an environmental impact study on the proposed transfer of TA-18's missions to another location will begin immediately. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 USC 4321 et seq.), and the DOE Regulations Implementing NEPA (10 CFR Part 1021), the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), an agency within the Department of Energy, is announcing its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed Relocation of the TA-18 Missions.

TA-18 supports important defense, nuclear safety, and other national security missions. Though TA-18 is judged to be secure by the Department's independent inspection office, its facilities are between 30 and 50 years old and are increasingly expensive to maintain and operate. Relocating the TA-18 missions will enable the Department to conduct these missions in a more efficient and cost-effective manner. Currently, DOE expects that the

TA-18 Relocation EIS will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with relocating the TA-18 missions to the following alternative locations: (1) A different site at LANL (the preferred alternative) at Los Alamos, New Mexico; (2) the Nevada Test Site (NTS) near Las Vegas, Nevada; (3) the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) at Albuquerque, New Mexico; and (4) the Argonne National Laboratory—West (ANL-W) near Idaho Falls, Idaho. It is possible that this list of reasonable alternatives may change during the scoping process. The EIS will also evaluate the no-action alternative of maintaining the missions at the current TA-18 location.

DATES: Comments on the proposed scope of the TA-18 Relocation EIS are invited from the public. To ensure consideration in the preparation of the EIS, comments must be postmarked by June 1, 2000. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable. Public scoping meetings to discuss issues and receive oral comments on the scope of the EIS will be held in the vicinity of sites that may be affected by the proposed action. The public scoping meetings will provide the public with an opportunity to present comments, ask questions, and discuss concerns with DOE/NNSA officials regarding the EIS. The location, date, and time for these public scoping meetings is as follows:

Los Alamos National Laboratory — May 17, 7 p.m.–10 p.m., Betty Ehart Senior Center, 2132 Central Avenue, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

Sandia National Laboratory — May 18, 7 p.m.–10:00 p.m., Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 Second Street, N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Nevada Test Site — May 23, 7 p.m.–10 p.m., U.S. DOE Nevada Operations Office Auditorium, 232 Energy Way, North Las Vegas, NV 89030.

Argonne National Laboratory — West — May 25, 7 p.m.–10 p.m., The Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Blvd., Idaho Falls, ID 83402.

Any agency that desires to be designated as a cooperating agency should contact Mr. Jay Rose at the address listed below by May 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: General questions concerning the TA-18 Project can be asked by calling 1-800-832-0885, ext. 65484, or by writing to: Mr. Jay Rose, Document Manager, TA-18 Relocation EIS, U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.

Comments can be submitted to Mr. Rose at the address above; or faxed to: 1-202-586-0467; or e-mailed to James.Rose@ns.doe.gov. Please mark

envelopes, faxes, and E-mail: "TA-18 Relocation EIS Comments."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the NNSA NEPA process, please contact: Mr. Henry Garson, NEPA Compliance Officer for Defense Programs, U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; or telephone 1-800-832-0885, ext. 30470. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone 202-586-4600, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 11, 2000, Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson announced that the Department would begin preparation of an EIS on the proposed transfer of TA-18's capabilities and up to approximately 2 tons of special nuclear materials to another location. TA-18, known as the Pajarito Site, consists of a main building, three outlying remote-controlled critical assembly buildings known as "kivas", several smaller laboratories, nuclear material storage vaults, and support buildings. The site is located on approximately 130 acres along Pajarito Road. The Los Alamos Critical Experiments Facility (LACEF) and other experimental facilities are located at TA-18, which is situated in the base of a canyon whose walls rise approximately 200 feet on three sides. The three kivas are Category 2 nuclear facilities (i.e., hazard analysis shows the potential for significant on-site consequences) and are within fenced areas to keep personnel at a safe distance during criticality experiments. Additionally, the entire TA-18 is bounded by a security fence to aid in physically safeguarding special nuclear material. Site access is through a guarded portal.

The principal TA-18 activities are the design, construction, research, development, and applications of experiments on nuclear criticality. Excluding security and support personnel, about 80 full-time employees work at TA-18. They provide expertise and knowledge in advanced nuclear technologies that support three primary areas: (1) Critical experiments in support of Stockpile Stewardship and other programs; (2) emergency response in support of counter-terrorism activities; and (3) safeguards and arms control in support of domestic and international programs to control excess nuclear materials. TA-18 is the nation's

only facility capable of performing general-purpose nuclear materials handling for a variety of experiments, measurements and training. TA-18 also houses the Western Hemisphere's largest collection of machines for conducting nuclear safety evaluations and establishing limits for operations.

Since 1948, thousands of criticality experiments and measurements have been performed at TA-18 on assemblies using uranium-233, uranium-235, and plutonium-239 in various configurations, including nitrate, sulfate, and oxide compounds as well as solid, liquid, and gas forms. Critical assemblies at TA-18 are designed to operate at low-average power and temperatures well below phase change transition temperatures (which sets them apart from normal reactors) with low fission production and minimal inventory. Special nuclear materials are stored at kivas or in a vault. The on-site TA-18 nuclear materials inventory (about 2 metric tons of special nuclear materials) is relatively stable, and consists primarily of isotopes of plutonium and uranium. The bulk of the plutonium is metal, and is either clad or encapsulated; plutonium oxide is double-canned. The use of toxic and hazardous chemicals is limited. The criticality experiments generate very small amounts of fission products and there is little radioactive waste. Criticality experiments do not release significant emissions to the atmosphere at the site. A more detailed description of TA-18 activities and associated impacts can be found in the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (January 1999).

Purpose, Need, and Proposed Action

The Department proposes to provide a long-term capability to conduct criticality experiments and evaluations, develop emergency response procedures, and support non-proliferation safeguards and arms control. Since the 1980's, this capability has been based upon the operation of facilities at TA-18, some of which have been operational since 1946. Though TA-18 is judged secure by the Department of Energy's independent inspection office, its facilities are between 30 and 50 years old and are increasingly expensive to maintain and operate. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has recommended, in 1993 and 1997, that the Department continue to maintain the capability to support the only remaining criticality safety program in the nation. Consistent with this, the Department wishes to maintain the important capabilities currently

provided by TA-18 in a manner that reduces the long-term costs for safeguards and security. Relocating the TA-18 missions would reduce life-cycle costs and improve safeguards and security.

Alternatives

Currently, the NNSA expects that the TA-18 Relocation EIS will evaluate the environmental impacts associated with TA-18 missions at the following DOE sites: (1) a different location at LANL (the preferred alternative); (2) NTS; (3) SNL; and (4) ANL-W. This preliminary list of sites is based on the initial efforts of a Department-wide Option Study Group chartered to develop reasonable alternatives for conducting TA-18 missions. Site screening criteria were developed by the Group that looked for sites with existing Category I (highest level) security infrastructure; nuclear environment, safety and health infrastructure; and compatibility between the site and TA-18 missions. These alternatives are described in greater detail below.

LANL Alternative. This alternative would involve constructing a new facility near the TA-55 Plutonium Facility 4. Consolidating the TA-18 missions near the existing TA-55 facilities could significantly reduce future costs associated with safeguards and security by consolidating safeguards and security requirements. Following construction, the existing Perimeter Intrusion Detection and Assessment System (PIDAS) fence would be expanded to encompass the new facility. Other possible LANL locations for a new facility may also be identified.

NTS Alternative. This alternative would house the TA-18 missions at or near the existing Device Assembly Facility (DAF). The DAF, which became operational in 1998, has the capability to support a variety of nuclear explosive operations (including device assembly, disassembly, modification, staging, testing, repair, and surveillance). Currently, the DAF is used for assembly of sub-critical assemblies, as well as miscellaneous other national security missions. The DAF is approximately 100,000 square feet and has capacity available to accept the TA-18 missions with internal modifications and some minor external construction.

SNL Alternative. This alternative would house the TA-18 missions within TA-V at SNL. Currently, SNL operates a variety of research-oriented nuclear facilities in TA-V. Because existing space in TA-V could accommodate the TA-18 missions, no new buildings would be needed for this

alternative. Internal modifications to existing buildings would be required.

ANL-W Alternative. This alternative would house the TA-18 missions in the existing Fuel Manufacturing Facility, and possibly the Transient Reactor Test Facility and other existing facilities. New construction to expand the existing Fuel Manufacturing Facility would be required to accommodate the TA-18 missions. Security upgrades may also be necessary.

As required by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, the TA-18 Relocation EIS will also evaluate the no-action alternative of maintaining the missions at the current TA-18 location. This alternative would maintain the current missions at Technical Area 18 as described in the expanded use alternative of the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory and Associated Record of Decision (64 FR 50797, September 20, 1999). As stated in the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, previously planned routine upgrades for infrastructure and security would be conducted in order to maintain the facility.

It is possible that this list of reasonable alternatives may change during the scoping process. In addition, as the EIS is being prepared, the NNSA will be examining the TA-18 missions in order to optimize the number and kind of facilities, and the amount of special nuclear material that would be required to carry out the missions. Following completion of the EIS process, the Secretary of Energy intends to decide where and how to conduct the TA-18 missions, as well as the future use of the existing TA-18 facilities.

Identification of Environmental and Other Issues

The NNSA has identified the following issues for analysis in the EIS. Additional issues may be identified as a result of the scoping process.

1. Public and Worker Safety, Health Risk Assessment: Radiological and non-radiological impacts, including projected effects on workers and the public from construction, normal operations and accident conditions, and decommissioning and decontamination activities associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

2. Impacts from releases to air, water, and soil associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

3. Impacts to plants, animals, and habitats, including threatened or endangered species and their habitats,

associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

4. The consumption of natural resources and energy associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

5. Socioeconomic impacts to affected communities from construction and operation associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

6. Environmental justice: Disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

7. Impacts to cultural resources such as historic, archaeological, scientific, or culturally important sites associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions. Because some facilities at TA-18 are over 50 years old, and potentially important in the context of the Cold War, these will be evaluated for their historical significance under all alternatives.

8. Impacts associated with transportation and storage of nuclear materials.

9. Status of compliance with all applicable Federal, state, and local statutes and regulations; required Federal, state, and tribe environmental consultations and notifications; and DOE Orders on waste management, waste minimization, and environmental protection.

10. Cumulative impacts from the proposed action and other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions at the alternative sites.

11. Potential irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

12. Pollution prevention and waste management practices, including characterization, storage, treatment and disposal of wastes associated with relocating and carrying out the TA-18 missions.

NNSA anticipates that certain classified information will be consulted in the preparation of this EIS and used by decision-makers to decide where and how the capabilities at TA-18 will be carried out. The EIS may contain a classified appendix. To the extent allowable, the EIS will summarize this information in an unclassified manner.

EIS Schedule

The importance of the TA-18 missions requires that the facilities remain operational until the final decision is made and implemented so there is minimal disruption to existing programs or commitments. To support a Record of Decision for this EIS by

January 2001, the major milestones for the EIS are shown below.

Public Scoping Meetings: May 2000.

Publish Draft EIS: September 2000.

Draft EIS Public Hearings: October 2000.

Publish Final EIS: December 2000.

Record of Decision: January 2001.

To facilitate this schedule, the TA-18 Relocation EIS will tier from existing EISs for the four alternative sites, as appropriate. For example, the Department has previously prepared Site-Wide EISs for LANL (Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory, January 1999), SNL (Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 1999), and NTS (Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada, August 1996) that are expected to provide much of the existing environmental information. Additionally, several NEPA documents for ANL-W facilities will be utilized, including the Electro-metallurgical Treatment Research and Demonstration Project at ANL-W Environmental Assessment (May 1996) and the Treatment and Management of Sodium-Bonded Spent Nuclear Fuel EIS (Final EIS expected to be published in May 2000).

Public Scoping Process

To assist in defining the appropriate scope of the EIS and to identify significant environmental issues to be addressed, NNSA representatives will conduct public scoping meetings at the locations, dates, and times described above under **DATES**. Each scoping meeting will begin with an overview of the TA-18 missions, the current EIS alternatives, and the proposed EIS scope. Following the initial presentation, NNSA representatives will answer questions and accept comments. Copies of handouts from the meetings will be available to those unable to attend, by contacting the NNSA as described above under **ADDRESSES**.

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 26th day of April, 2000.

T. J. Gauthier,

Deputy Secretary of Energy, Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 00-10897 Filed 5-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**National Nuclear Security
Administration****Notice of Schedule Change for
Preparing the Environmental Impact
Statement for the Proposed Relocation
of the Los Alamos National Laboratory
Technical Area 18 Missions**

AGENCY: Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice of schedule change.

SUMMARY: On May 2, 2000, the Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), published a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed Relocation of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Technical Area 18 (TA-18) (hereafter that EIS will be referred to as the TA-18 EIS) (65 FR 25472). In that notice, the NNSA indicated that the TA-18 EIS process was scheduled to be completed by January 2001. The purpose of this notification is to inform the public that the schedule for completing the TA-18 EIS has changed. The NNSA now projects that the EIS process will not be completed before September 2001.

ADDRESSES: General questions concerning the TA -18 Project can be asked by calling 1-800-832-0885, ext. 6-5484, or by writing to: Mr. Jay Rose, Document Manager, TA -18 Relocation EIS, U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 18th day of January 2001.

T.J. Glauthier,

Deputy Secretary of Energy, Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 01-2469 Filed 1-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the NNSA National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, please contact: Mr. Henry Garson, NEPA Compliance Officer for Defense Programs, U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; or telephone 1-800-832-0885, ext. 30470. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone 202-586-4600, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 11, 2000, Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson announced that the NNSA would begin preparation of an EIS on the proposed transfer to another location of TA -18's capabilities and up to approximately 2 tons of special nuclear materials. In the Notice of Intent, published on May 2, 2000, the NNSA solicited comments on the proposed scope of the TA -18 EIS from the public and conducted public scoping meetings as follows: May 18, 2000, in Albuquerque, New Mexico; May 23, 2000, in North Las Vegas, Nevada; May 25, 2000, in Idaho Falls, ID; and May 30, 2000, in Espanola, New Mexico.

Due primarily to budget constraints, funding for the TA -18 EIS was not available during the summer of 2000 and the schedule for completing the TA -18 EIS began to slip. The events associated with the Cerro Grande fire at LANL (see 65 FR 120, June 21, 2000) further disrupted TA -18 planning activities and added to the schedule slip. The revised EIS schedule is as follows:

Issue Draft EIS—May 2001

Draft EIS Public Hearings —June 2001

Issue Final EIS—August 2001

Record of Decision —September 2001

There have been no significant changes to the TA -18 EIS scope or alternatives, as described in the original TA -18 EIS Notice of Intent.

APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I

Public Participation Process Overview

TA-18

APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J
APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F

APPENDIX I

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

I.1 THE PUBLIC SCOPING PROCESS

I.1.1 Scoping Process Description

As a preliminary step in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS), regulations established by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1501.7) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) require “an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.” The purpose of this scoping process is: (1) to inform the public about a proposed action and the alternatives being considered, and (2) to identify and/or clarify issues that are relevant to the EIS by soliciting public comments.

On May 2, 2000, The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), a separately-organized agency within DOE, published a Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* announcing its intent to prepare a *Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Relocation of Technical Area 18 Capabilities and Materials at the Los Alamos National Laboratory*. During the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, there are opportunities for public involvement (see **Figure I-1**). The Notice of Intent listed the issues initially identified by DOE for evaluation in the EIS. Public citizens, civic leaders, and other interested parties were invited to comment on these issues and to suggest additional issues that should be considered in the EIS. The Notice of Intent informed the public that comments on the proposed action could be communicated via U.S. mail, a special DOE web site on the internet, a toll-free phone line, a toll-free fax line, or in person at public meetings to be held near the alternative relocation sites.

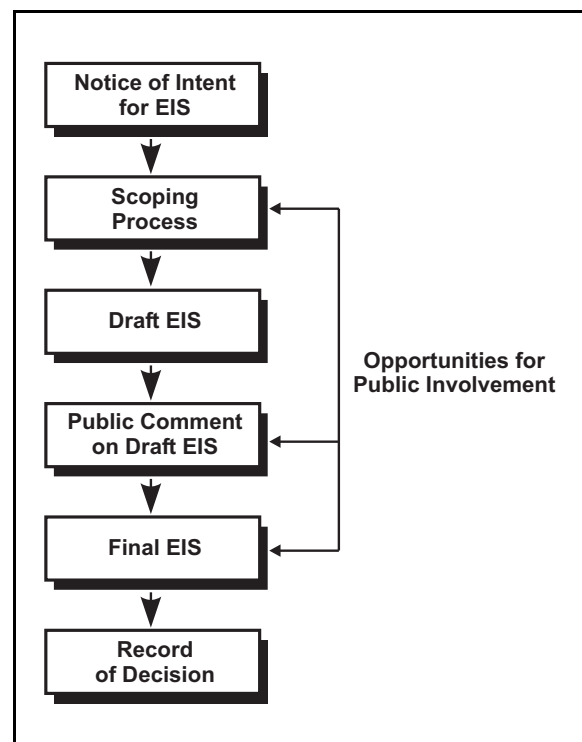


Figure I-1 NEPA Process

Public meetings were held near each of the four alternative relocation sites: (1) Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL/NM), on May 18, 2000, in Albuquerque, New Mexico; (2) Nevada Test Site (NTS), on May 23, 2000, in North Las Vegas, Nevada; (3) Argonne National Laboratory-West (ANL-W), on May 25, 2000, in Idaho Falls, Idaho; and (4) Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), on May 30, 2000,¹ in Española, New Mexico (see **Figure I-2**).

¹ Due to the Cerro Grande Fire in the Los Alamos, New Mexico area, the LANL public scoping meeting originally scheduled for May 17, 2000, in Los Alamos was rescheduled to May 30, 2000, in Española, New Mexico.

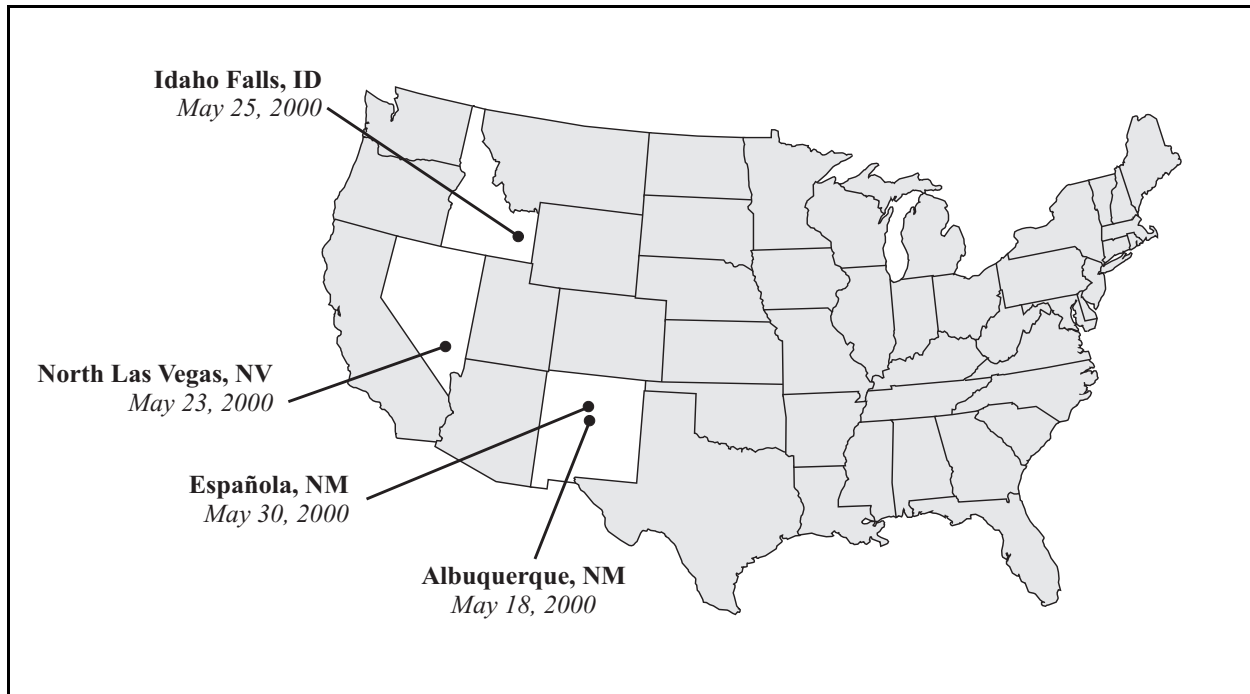


Figure I-2 Public Scoping Meeting Locations and Dates

As a result of previous experience and positive responses from attendees of other DOE NEPA public meetings and hearings, DOE chose an interactive format for the scoping meetings. Each meeting began with a presentation by a DOE representative who explained the proposed Technical Area 18 (TA-18) relocation plan. Afterwards, the floor was opened to questions, comments, and concerns from the audience. DOE representatives were available to respond to questions and comments as needed. The proceedings and formal comments raised at each meeting were recorded verbatim, and a transcript for each meeting was produced. The public was also encouraged to submit written or verbal comments, during the meetings or to submit comments via letters, the DOE internet web site, toll-free phone line, or toll-free fax line, until the end of the scoping period. Due to the rescheduling of the Los Alamos public meeting, necessitated by the Cerro Grande Fire, the end of the scoping period was extended from June 1, 2000 to June 15, 2000. Comments received after June 15, 2000 were considered and included to the extent practicable.

It should be noted that, for EIS public scoping purposes, a comment is defined as a single opinion concerning a specific issue. An individual commentator's public statement may contain several such comments. Most of the verbal and written public statements submitted during the EIS scoping period contained multiple comments on various specific issues. These issues are summarized in the following section.

I.1.2 Scoping Process Results

Nearly 400 comments were received from citizens, interested groups, and Federal, state, and local officials during the public scoping period, including approximately 50 verbal comments made during the public meetings. The remainder of the comments (336) were submitted at the public meetings in written form, or were submitted via mail, internet, fax, or phone over the entire scoping period. Some commentators who spoke at the public meetings also prepared written statements that were later submitted during or after the meetings. Where this occurred, each comment provided by an individual commentator in both verbal and written form was counted as a single comment. It should be noted that a single commentator provided more than 200 of the total scoping comments that were received during the public scoping period.

Many of the verbal and written comments received during the public scoping period identified the need for DOE to describe in detail the existing TA-18 facilities and processes, as well as the specific requirements associated with the alternatives for fulfilling the proposed action. In particular, comments addressed the suitability of other sites to perform TA-18 operations, the design of any facilities to be constructed or modified, construction and operation timelines, and controls to limit releases to the environment.

A significant number of comments also expressed concern about the costs associated with operating TA-18 or relocating these operating capabilities and materials elsewhere. These comments suggested that detailed cost analyses be conducted to analyze the construction, operation, security, and transportation needs of the various alternatives.

Many comments were expressed about the special nuclear materials (SNM) needed to support, and the waste streams resulting from, TA-18 activities. Commentors requested clarification about the amount of SNM that would be required under each alternative, the manner and route of its transport, and the availability of suitable shipping containers. Waste management concerns expressed by commentors included the need to identify the types and volumes of waste generated by the proposed action, the facilities available at each site to treat, store and/or dispose of these wastes, transportation requirements, and compatibility of managing these wastes with state and Federal regulations.

Several commentors expressed concern about environmental, health, and safety risks associated with TA-18 activities. DOE representatives were urged to thoroughly evaluate the potential consequences of the proposed action on local wildlife, water resources, and the health and safety of area residents, and to address the Cerro Grande Fire at LANL in the EIS. Comments also suggested that the EIS quantify all radionuclide and chemical emissions resulting from the proposed action. Concerns also were raised about the safety and security of existing TA-18 facilities, and how safety and security would be addressed at each of the proposed relocation sites. Commentors also expressed favor or opposition to a relocation alternative, reasons for which included security, cost, and workforce advantages.

Public comments and materials submitted during the scoping period were logged and placed in the Administrative Record of this EIS.

I.1.3 Comment Disposition and Issue Identification

Comments received during the scoping period were systematically reviewed by DOE. Where possible, comments on similar or related topics were grouped under comment issue categories as a means of summarizing the comments. The comment issue categories were used to identify specific issues of public concern. After the issues were identified, they were evaluated to determine whether they fell within or outside the scope of the EIS. Some issues were found to be already “in scope,” and that they were among the EIS issues initially identified by DOE for inclusion in the EIS. **Table I-1** lists these issues along with where these issues are addressed in the EIS.

As a result of the public scoping process, one additional issue, consideration of an alternative to upgrade the existing TA-18 facilities at LANL, and clarification of the requirements for such an alternative, was added to the scope of the *TA-18 Relocation EIS* (see **Table I-2**).

During the scoping process, DOE received many comments that were judged to be beyond the scope of the *TA-18 Relocation EIS*. The purpose and scope of the *TA-18 Relocation EIS* are only to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the relocation of TA-18 activities. Comments judged to be beyond the scope of the EIS included: (1) national security matters, (2) cost of TA-18 operations, (3) opposition to TA-18 activities, and (4) weapons development activities. These issues are not addressed in the EIS.

Table I-1 Issues Included In the EIS (In Scope)

| <i>Issues</i> | <i>Number of Comments</i> | <i>EIS References</i> |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| General history of TA-18 and its missions, and the continued importance of current TA-18 operations to national security | 15 | Section 1.1 and Chapter 3 |
| NNSA's responsibilities under DOE with respect to the proposed action and alternatives | 2 | Section 1.1.1 |
| Purpose, need, and duration for relocating TA-18 activities | 5 | Chapter 2 and Section 3.2.1 |
| Unclassified description of the radioactive and non-radioactive materials to be used and the types of experiments to be conducted at the proposed facility, including critical assembly experiments, any uses of cladding, cooling experiments, and storage requirements | 19 | Section 3.1 |
| Current and proposed use of SNM by TA-18 operations, and its availability | 9 | Section 3.1.2 |
| TA-18 decontamination and decommissioning, closure, and post-closure plans | 5 | Section 3.2.1 and Section 5.7 |
| Transportation requirements associated with the proposed action and alternatives | 4 | Section 3.1.2, Chapter 5, and Appendix D |
| Unclassified description of the bounding amount of SNM proposed for transport to each candidate location, the manner and route of transport, the containers and casks that would be used to transport this material, necessary safeguards and security measures to protect shipments, and potential accidents associated with this transport | 19 | Section 3.1.2 and Appendix D |
| Radionuclide and chemical emissions resulting from the proposed action | 7 | Section 3.2.1 |
| Time frame for TA-18 operations for all alternatives | 3 | Section 3.2.1 |
| Potential employment impacts to the TA-18 workforce resulting from the proposed relocation | 6 | Section 3.2.1 and Chapter 5 |
| Siting criteria used to determine the reasonable site alternatives for the TA-18 operations | 3 | Section 3.2.2 |
| Description of TA-18 facilities and critical assembly machines, and the specific requirements associated with the alternative proposals for carrying out the TA-18 operations at the alternative sites, including the purpose and design of each facility, timeline and major schedule milestones, any necessary construction, software and security systems to be used, and any systems that would be used to prevent emissions to the environment | 36 | Section 3.2.1, Section 3.3 and Appendix A |
| The alternative of discontinuing TA-18 operations | 2 | Section 3.4.1 |
| Sites that were considered but eliminated from detailed study | 6 | Section 3.4.2 |
| Environmental, safety, and health impacts of relocating/conducting TA-18 activities over the lifetime of operations at each proposed location | 18 | Section 3.5 and Chapter 5 |
| DOE's Preferred Alternative | 2 | Section 3.6 |
| Existing affected environments at each alternative site, including current storage of transuranic materials, as well as releases of radiation from TA-18 normal operations and their effect on workers and the general population | 6 | Chapter 4 |
| Changes to the affected environment as a result of the Cerro Grande Fire | 2 | Chapter 4 |
| Accident history of the existing TA-18 facilities and of each alternative relocation site | 7 | Chapter 4 |
| Seismic and floodplain issues relative to TA-18 operations | 3 | Chapter 4 and 5 |
| Waste types and volumes that would be generated as a result of the proposed action and alternatives, and how these wastes would be transported/managed at each proposed location | 33 | Section 3.2.1 and Chapter 5 |
| Environmental justice | 1 | Chapters 4 and 5 and Appendix E |
| Potential routes for air, water, and soil contamination from proposed facility operation | 1 | Chapter 5 |

| <i>Issues</i> | <i>Number of Comments</i> | <i>EIS References</i> |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Applicable laws and regulations associated with the proposed action and alternatives | 13 | Chapter 6 |
| Consultation with Native American representatives | 5 | Chapter 6 |
| Reasonable spectrum of accidents (including criticality accidents) associated with the TA-18 proposal | 13 | Appendix C |
| Safety measures to prevent criticality accidents | 4 | Appendix A |
| Description of recent independent safety evaluations, and other issues associated with safety at TA-18 | 6 | Appendix C |
| Software and computer codes used in performing the accident analyses in this <i>TA-18 Relocation EIS</i> . | 4 | Appendix C |
| Impact assessment methodology | 1 | Appendices B, C, D, E, and F |
| Summary of public scoping comments on the proposed action and alternatives | 1 | Appendix I |

Table I-2 Issues Added to the Scope of the TA-18 Relocation EIS

| <i>Issues</i> | <i>Number of Comments</i> | <i>EIS References</i> |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Consideration of the alternative to upgrade existing TA-18 facilities and clarification of the specific requirements for such an alternative | 1 | Section 3.3 |

APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J

Contractor Disclosure Statement

TA-18

APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G
APPENDIX H
APPENDIX I
APPENDIX J

APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
APPENDIX D
APPENDIX E
APPENDIX F
APPENDIX G

**NEPA DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PREPARATION OF EIS
FOR THE PROPOSED RELOCATION OF TECHNICAL AREA 18 CAPABILITIES
AND MATERIALS AT THE LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY**

CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1506.5(c), which have been adopted by DOE (10 CFR 1021), require contractors who will prepare an EIS to execute a disclosure specifying that they have no financial or other interest in the outcome of the project. The term "financial interest or other interest in the outcome of the project," for the purposes of this disclosure, is defined in the March 23, 1981 guidance "Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations," 46 FR 18026-18038 at Question 17a and b.

"Financial or other interest in the outcome of the project 'includes' any financial benefit such as a promise of future construction or design work in the project, as well as indirect benefits the contractor is aware of (e.g., if the project would aid proposals sponsored by the firm's other clients)." 46 FR 18026-18038 at 18031.

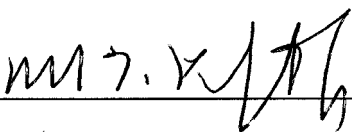
In accordance with these requirements, the offeror and any proposed subcontractors hereby certify as follows: (check either (a) or (b) to assure consideration of your proposal)

- (a) ✓ Offeror and any proposed subcontractor have no financial interest in the outcome of the project.
- (b) Offeror and any proposed subcontractor have the following financial or other interest in the outcome of the project and hereby agree to divest themselves of such interest prior to award of this contract.

Financial or Other Interests:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Certified by:



Signature

Richard T. Profant

Name

Corporate Vice President
Integrated Environmental Services Operation

August 3, 2001

Date